

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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TITLE: THERMAL TRANSFER PRINTER/LABELLER SPECIFICALLY DESIGNED FOR
CASSETTES OR READY-TO-USE PACKAGES

Amendment A: CLAIM AMENDMENTS

Claims 1 - 4 (canceled).

5. (new) A thermal transfer printer apparatus comprising:

an enclosing structure having an interior volume;

a thermal printhead positioned in said enclosing structure;

a first cassette positioned in said interior volume of said enclosing structure, said first cassette having a take-up core and a spool of printing ribbon therein, said first cassette having a first hole corresponding to said spool of printing ribbon and a second hole corresponding to said spool of printing ribbon;

a first driving shaft extending through one of said first and second holes and extending outwardly of said enclosing structure so as to be suitable for receiving a driving force applied thereto;

a second cassette of an asymmetrical configuration positioned in said interior volume of said enclosing structure, said second cassette having a spool of a ribbon medium and a take-up core therein, said second cassette having a first hole and a second hole corresponding respectively to said spool of the ribbon medium and to said take-up core;

a second driving shaft extending through one of said first and second holes and said

second cassette and extending outwardly of said enclosing structure so as to be suitable for receiving a driving force applied thereto, said thermal printhead receiving the printing ribbon and said ribbon medium therein;

a printhead adjustment arm integrally connected to said thermal printhead and suitable for adjustably moving said thermal printhead in said enclosing structure;

a series of idle rollers mounted in said enclosing structure so as to receive the ribbon medium thereover;

a motorized roller mounted in said enclosing structure in spaced relation to said series of idle rollers, said motorized rollers receiving the ribbon medium thereover; and

a rubber-coated drive roller positioned adjacent said thermal printhead in said enclosing structure, said rubber-coated drive roller receiving the ribbon medium thereover.